



**State of Arizona**

**Developmental Disabilities Planning Council**

**Five Year State Plan: Public Comment Survey Results**

**Closed: April 8, 2010**

## Survey Introduction:

The Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights Act (DD Act) requires that every state Council on Developmental Disabilities develop a Five Year Plan listing goals and objectives under different Areas of Emphasis. These Areas of Emphasis include topics such as: Employment, Education, and Housing. These Areas of Emphasis represent categories that should be focused on or improved upon in the Developmental Disabilities Community. The following questionnaire includes every Goal listed in the new amended Five Year Plan, created and approved by the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. The DD Act also requires that the Council release the plan publicly for a 45 day period, to gather comments. This questionnaire is your opportunity to tell us what you think about the Council's Goals, and how you think we can improve them. Please take a few minutes to let us know your thoughts.

## Summary of All Survey Responses:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	66.6%	521
Agree	22.1%	173
Neutral	6.0%	47
Disagree	3.5%	27
Strongly Disagree	1.8%	14

## Summary of Comments:

Area of Emphasis	General Theme of Comments
Employment	Concerns regarding: Available funding, and other types of employment opportunities than in the "community".
Education	Concerns regarding: Quality of education; comments that public education is not always the best and least restrictive environment for individuals with disabilities.
Housing	Concerns regarding: Available funding, and implementation of objectives.
Healthcare	Concerns regarding: Available funding, licensing of behavior analysts, and dental care.
Transportation	Concerns regarding: Available funding, the current transportation system's downfalls, transportation in rural areas, and safety.
Quality Assurance	Concerns regarding plans for implementation. Several comments that the goal is unrealistic, vague, or immeasurable.

## Question One: Employment

Please rate your agreement with the following Employment Goal: "Individuals with developmental disabilities will have the choice to acquire, retain and advance in paid employment with benefits consistent with their interests, abilities, and needs, including supported employment or self-employment, in integrated settings in the community".

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	63.8%	83
Agree	26.2%	34
Neutral	5.4%	7
Disagree	2.3%	3
Strongly Disagree	2.3%	3
Other (please specify)		8
<i>Answered Question</i>		130
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

Other Responses:

Number	Response Date	Comments
1	Feb 25, 2010 4:09 PM	Not sure it is realistic, DDD ESS programs are sorely lacking, competition in the community for employment, etc
2	Feb 27, 2010 8:49 AM	This isn't written as a goal. It doesn't say anything and is not measurable.
3	Mar 2, 2010 7:12 AM	employment should not be limited to "community" but should include employment in workshops and on institutional campuses. People with developmental disabilities should not be isolated from their peers simply because society places higher value on associating with "normal" people, whatever that is!
4	Mar 4, 2010 5:59 PM	If the individual can work, they should, with support dollars going down according to amount earned.
5	Mar 12, 2010 9:07 PM	What is an integrated setting in a rural community?
6	Mar 13, 2010 11:56 PM	with lack of state funding, I am concerned
7	Mar 24, 2010 6:24 PM	Need to include center-based pgms for those that cannot work in the community
8	Apr 1, 2010 6:16 AM	are you talking supported employment like at the federal level where it is inclusive community or the AZ practice of using sheltered workshops/centered based? as long as both are integrated settings in the community with competitive wages, I strongly agree.

## Question Two: Education

Please rate your agreement with the following Education Goal: "Individuals with developmental disabilities, from birth up to the age of 22, will have full access to a free and appropriate public education which is the foundation necessary to allow for equal participation within their community".

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	70.8%	92
Agree	18.5%	24
Neutral	4.6%	6
Disagree	3.8%	5
Strongly Disagree	2.3%	3
Other (please specify)		16
<i>Answered Question</i>		130
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

Other Responses:

Number	Response Date	Comments
1	Feb 25, 2010 4:09 PM	Educ tries to kick them out early, quality of educ needs to improve also
2	Feb 25, 2010 4:43 PM	Based on academic/educational need & progress shown will determine length of time spent in school, not their age.
3	Feb 25, 2010 10:38 PM	Public education is not always the best and least restrictive environment for individuals with disabilities. These individuals should have access to an appropriate education or placement which is properly funded and equipped to accommodate their specific needs and allow them to participate in their community to the best of their ability. I do not support goals or mandates without the necessary funding to carry them out. This does not serve the interest of the community or the individuals they attempt to serve.
4	Feb 26, 2010 4:34 PM	I would like to see the goal reflect "free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and within inclusive classroom settings to the greatest extent possible"
5	Feb 26, 2010 5:02 PM	in coordination with IDEA's requirement of results oriented measurable post secondary goals.
6	Feb 27, 2010 7:28 AM	sometimes private school is the best option and sometimes equal participation is not a viable consideration
7	Feb 27, 2010 8:49 AM	This is also too vague and not measurable. It sounds like a section lifted from IDEA.
8	Mar 2, 2010 2:16 AM	educational curriculum needs to be designed for those with disabilities. Not less or minimal but appropriate to meet the same needs as typical developing peers

9	Mar 2, 2010 7:12 AM	to the extent that the people with dd who are in the educational system envisioned in this statement are physically and mentally capable of "equal participation within their community" I agree. I even agree if "their" can be interpreted as their peer community which may provide for structured workshops in which those with very severe, multiple handicaps including very early age cognitive arrest. Please do not set a premium on EVERY PERSON WITH DD, ESPECIALLY COGNITIVE DISABILITY LIVING UP TO THE STANDARD SET BY SOME WHO ASPIRE TO COMMUNITY INTEGRATION! FOR THOSE WHO CAN, IT IS GREAT. IT SHOULD BE EQUALLY GREAT FOR THOSE WHO NEED RECOGNITION FOR BEING WHO THEY ARE WHERE THEY ARE AND NEED TO BE VALUED AS THEY ARE!
10	Mar 2, 2010 8:12 PM	Depends on school and district
11	Mar 3, 2010 9:15 PM	And as afforded to them by IDEA.
12	Mar 10, 2010 4:19 AM	While FAPE is initially the start of accessing equal participation, the system itself fails to meet the fundamental requirements needed for individuals to use what they learn in other settings. That is, a program should include educational settings, community settings, and home settings.
13	Mar 15, 2010 3:51 PM	If required
14	Mar 18, 2010 9:41 PM	Should this indicate access to FAPE if they have not met graduation requirements?
15	Mar 22, 2010 9:51 PM	without a definition of "full access" and "equal participation" I am not able to answer this question
16	Apr 6, 2010 3:11 AM	We need to see more children with disabilities placed in regular classrooms and teachers more open to this specially autism because it is on a rise

### Question Three: Housing

Please rate your agreement with the following Housing Goal: "Individuals with developmental disabilities will have unrestricted opportunities and choice for inclusive community living".

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	53.8%	70
Agree	25.4%	33
Neutral	13.1%	17
Disagree	6.9%	9
Strongly Disagree	1.5%	2
Other (please specify)		19
<i>Answered Question</i>		131
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

Other Responses:

Number	Response Date	Comments
1	Feb 25, 2010 2:33 PM	Goal is unrealistic, both in terms of availability and affordability
2	Feb 25, 2010 4:09 PM	Competition with population also needing affordable housing
3	Feb 25, 2010 10:38 PM	Proper funding must be available to communities in order to adequately and appropriately equip community housing to meet the special and specific needs of individuals with disabilities. I do not support mandates without proper funding and direction.
4	Feb 26, 2010 5:02 PM	This goal is not clear to me. What is meant by unrestricted opportunities?
5	Feb 27, 2010 7:28 AM	Yes, as a choice but not as a rule. Inclusive is not always the best choice, as I feel it may put some of our vulnerable population at risk
6	Feb 27, 2010 8:49 AM	Again, too vague, not measurable. Not clearly defined to be effective.
7	Mar 2, 2010 2:16 AM	I think more needs to be done to allow these individuals to live in communities that offers them opportunities for inclusion as well as the choice to live among those with similar disabilities.
8	Mar 2, 2010 7:12 AM	AS LONG AS PUBLIC SUPPORTED, FEDERALLY REGULATED CONGREGATE CARE IS AVAILABLE AS ONE OF THE COMMUNITY CHOICES, I WHOLE HEARTEDLY AGREE.
9	Mar 2, 2010 7:39 PM	"unrestricted opportunities" is not understood
10	Mar 3, 2010 1:38 AM	This should be based on their abilities.
11	Mar 3, 2010 9:15 PM	with appropriate supports.
12	Mar 3, 2010 9:18 PM	I think it is beneficial for some individuals to have assistance when it comes to housing to ensure that everyone is safe.

13	Mar 12, 2010 9:07 PM	Who will coordinate these opportunities?
14	Mar 18, 2010 9:41 PM	given the level of support needed?
15	Mar 22, 2010 9:51 PM	"unrestricted " needs to be defined and explained
16	Mar 24, 2010 6:24 PM	What about severely disabled clients? Unrestricted opportunities may not be possible
17	Mar 29, 2010 7:32 AM	I don't know enough about the pros & cons to have an informed opinion.
18	Mar 31, 2010 7:52 AM	I am assuming they can chose from any type of living situation that is available in the the community, including a group home, an ADH, IDH?
19	Apr 1, 2010 6:16 AM	I don't see you having the money to provide crisis intervention services. and with the lack of section 8 housing or wait list, what is the purpose of objective 2? work to get universal design housing on new construction.

#### Question Four: Healthcare

Please rate your agreement with the following Healthcare Goal: "Individuals with developmental disabilities will have access to and use of coordinated health, dental, behavioral health and other human and social services, including prevention activities, in their communities".

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	70.0%	91
Agree	20.0%	26
Neutral	5.4%	7
Disagree	3.1%	4
Strongly Disagree	1.5%	2
Other (please specify)		15
<i>Answered Question</i>		130
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

Other Responses:

Number	Response Date	Comments
1	Feb 25, 2010 2:33 PM	Sounds good, but again professional availability is severely limited
2	Feb 25, 2010 4:09 PM	Much needed funding for dental and beh health
3	Feb 25, 2010 4:37 PM	As a part of this goal, please also advocate for "qualified" behavioral health professionals (Licensed Behavior Analysts) to conduct Functional Behavioral Assessments and Positive Behavior Support plans for individuals with challenging behavior. Currently, our system must rely on other licensed professionals (psychologists, social workers, etc) who often do not have the necessary training and experience. In January 2011, a number of Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) will become eligible for licensing in AZ, but without proper advocacy they still will not be eligible for reimbursement from AHCCCS. Until that happens, behavior health clinics around the state will not employ the kind of professional needed to help people with DD and challenging behavior.
4	Feb 25, 2010 10:38 PM	I support everyone's right to have access to all services however the funding for some of the very unique and specialized health needs should not be burdened and reflected in the insurance rates and healthcare costs of their community
5	Feb 26, 2010 4:34 PM	Please also address the current issue regarding licensing of behavior analysts, which is important for addressing the autism insurance bill. We need to have the licensing issue resolved in order to better serve families of children with autism.
6	Feb 27, 2010 7:28 AM	I would add nutritional services



7	Feb 27, 2010 8:49 AM	Still very vague and not measurable, but better stated than the previous goals.
8	Mar 4, 2010 5:59 PM	Very few individuals and families have dental and behavioral health care available without horrendous costs.
9	Mar 10, 2010 4:05 AM	This goal should include a provision "qualified" behavioral health professionals (Licensed Behavior Analysts) to conduct Functional Behavioral Assessments and Positive Behavior Support plans for individuals with challenging behavior. Currently, the system must rely on licensed professionals (psychologists, social workers, etc) who often do not have the training and experience. In January 2011, a number of Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) will become eligible for licensing in AZ, but without proper advocacy they still will not be eligible for reimbursement from AHCCCS. Until that happens, behavior health clinics around the state will not employ the expertise needed to help individuals with these specific needs.
10	Mar 10, 2010 4:19 AM	They current law, especially Steven's Law does not allow individuals with autism with AHCCES insurance to access the benefits afforded those with private insurance. They are discriminated against by the state, because they have state insurance that is exempt from state law.
11	Mar 12, 2010 9:07 PM	How will they have access and who will help them?
12	Mar 13, 2010 11:56 PM	lack of state funding
13	Mar 29, 2010 7:32 AM	This is lacking in Arizona, and recent decisions by the state government are making things worse.
14	Mar 31, 2010 7:52 AM	Hopefully their health insurance would include coverage in all these areas?
15	Apr 1, 2010 6:16 AM	your objectives is information only. having dental care is important and giving dentist info is one thing, and having them practice on individuals with ID is another thing.

### Question Five: Transportation

Please rate your agreement with the following Transportation Goal: "Individuals with developmental disabilities will have choice and options for safe, affordable, reliable and coordinated transportation services for work, school, medical, and personal needs".

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	66.2%	86
Agree	28.5%	37
Neutral	3.1%	4
Disagree	1.5%	2
Strongly Disagree	0.8%	1
Other (please specify)		12
<i>Answered Question</i>		130
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

Other Responses:

Number	Response Date	Comments
1	Feb 25, 2010 2:33 PM	System needs overhauled, currently much too slow and unreliable
2	Feb 25, 2010 4:09 PM	Rural areas are at an extreme disadvantage, will not benefit the state as a whole
3	Feb 25, 2010 7:22 PM	Transportation throughout the metro Phoenix area without have to walk to the next city's block
4	Feb 26, 2010 5:02 PM	Just as in IDEA find ways to make transprotation accessible and safe in the least restrictive environment and ways. Be creative.
5	Feb 27, 2010 8:49 AM	Still vague and not very measurable, but better stated than earlier statements.
6	Mar 2, 2010 2:16 AM	safety is a concern because these individuals are seen as easy targets for criminal assaults
7	Mar 2, 2010 8:12 PM	As long as they live on the bus route
8	Mar 3, 2010 1:38 AM	Must cross city boundaries to be affective
9	Mar 3, 2010 9:15 PM	with appropriate supports in place.
10	Mar 12, 2010 9:07 PM	Where will this funding come from for transportation?
11	Mar 29, 2010 7:32 AM	Another goal that I believe Arizona's budget woes are adversely affecting.
12	Apr 1, 2010 6:16 AM	sort of a wimpy goal to get people with ID on state boards. guess it is good you recognize you should work with ILC.

## Question Six: Quality Assurance

Please rate your agreement with the following Quality Assurance Goal: "Individuals with Developmental Disabilities will have the information, skills, opportunities, and supports to live free of abuse, neglect, financial and sexual exploitation, protect self-determination, leadership, independence, productivity, integration, and inclusion in all facets of community life".

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	76.2%	99
Agree	14.6%	19
Neutral	4.6%	6
Disagree	3.1%	4
Strongly Disagree	2.3%	3
Other (please specify)		13
<i>Answered Question</i>		130
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

Other Responses:

Number	Response Date	Comments
1	Feb 25, 2010 2:33 PM	A lofty , "feel good" goal, with no plan for implementation of funding
2	Feb 25, 2010 4:37 PM	As a part of this goal, please also join forces with ACDL, APRAIS and many other advocacy efforts to reduce the incidence of unnecessary and dangerous use of restraints and seclusion for students with disabilities in Arizona's schools.
3	Feb 25, 2010 10:38 PM	Unfortunately we don't even have this goal for society as a whole. This is a very lofty and ambiguous statement with little substance. Individual abilities vary greatly among this population with little guarantees. Information, skills, opportunities and supports are not internalized or utilized in the same ways by individuals and therefore this goal is not measurable or attainable.
4	Feb 26, 2010 5:02 PM	Find ways to continuously teach students/consumers, educators, parents, employers and the community to have all individuals use their voice. Use the tools of the IEP's the ISP's the IPE's. Continuous training, practice and dedicated effort and time is required.
5	Feb 26, 2010 9:56 PM	Your support of self advocacy is very important, the Self Advocacy Coalition's role to understand the legislative process is important to the self advocacy movement you should recognize the important role they play in the movement and in the state.
6	Feb 27, 2010 8:49 AM	Too vague, unmeasurable. Poorly written. This is not stated as an achievable goal.

7	Mar 2, 2010 7:12 AM	Now that you all are trying to take out the words "mental retardation," it would seem that you are leaving people with severity of that condition out of your statement. In addition to protection for self-determination, there should be protection for the right to have one's needs met and to live by choice in a state operated congregate care facility regulated by CMS audits per Olmstead Supreme Court Decision.
8	Mar 2, 2010 8:12 PM	It can be very difficult to get a public fiduciary or legal guardian for a person who is unable to take care of their own financial and personal decisions. Individuals over 18 without a legal guardian who have developmental disabilities can put themselves in harms way.
9	Mar 4, 2010 5:59 PM	Unrealistic goal
10	Mar 12, 2010 9:07 PM	who will teach these ideals and who will police them?
11	Mar 12, 2010 9:46 PM	I agree with the theory but the wording's hard to understand. Maybe some semicolons would help.
12	Mar 24, 2010 6:24 PM	For severely disabled clients, this should include "to the extent possible".
13	Mar 31, 2010 7:52 AM	For an individual to have this be a reality, depends on how effective and efficient their Support Coordinator is.

## Demographics Information:

### Question Seven:

Thank you so much for taking the time to share your opinions on our proposed plan goals. Please take a moment to tell us a little about yourself. Are you:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Male	16.2%	21
Female	83.8%	109
<i>Answered Question</i>		130
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

### Question Eight:

What is your age group?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
0 - 22	0.0%	0
23 - 35	17.7%	23
36 - 50	38.5%	50
51 - 65	40.8%	53
over 65	3.1%	4
<i>Answered Question</i>		130
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

### Question Nine:

What Arizona County do you live in? If you work in a different county than you reside in, please list that county in the "other" field.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Apache	0.8%	1
Cochise	3.1%	4
Coconino	2.3%	3
Gila	0.0%	0
Graham	0.0%	0
Greenlee	0.0%	0
La Paz	0.0%	0
Maricopa	63.1%	82
Mohave	1.5%	2
Navajo	3.8%	5
Pima	15.4%	20
Pinal	3.1%	4
Santa Cruz	1.5%	2

Yavapai	4.6%	6
Yuma	0.8%	1
Other (Please Specify)		6
<i>Answered Question</i>		130
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

Other Responses:

Number	Response Date	Comments
1	Mar 5, 2010 5:08 PM	My position is statewide
2	Mar 12, 2010 9:46 PM	Pinal
3	Mar 12, 2010 10:18 PM	Pinal
4	Mar 15, 2010 3:51 PM	Work in Maricopa
5	Mar 16, 2010 2:46 PM	maricopa
6	Mar 22, 2010 9:51 PM	Pinal

#### Question Ten:

What is your relationship with the developmental disabilities community?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I am an individual with a developmental disability.	3.8%	5
I am a parent or family member of an individual with a developmental disability.	46.2%	60
I provide services to individuals with developmental disabilities.	60.0%	78
I am a caregiver to an individual with a developmental disability.	6.9%	9
Other (Please Specify)		15
<i>Answered Question</i>		130
<i>Skipped Question</i>		0

Other Responses:

Number	Response Date	Comments
1	Feb 25, 2010 2:33 PM	I have 2 sons with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and severely limited mobility. There is virtually nothing available for them to do as they require fulltime skilled nursing. They are very high functioning and have no place compatible for their needs after they leave McClintock High this spring.

2	Feb 25, 2010 2:46 PM	elementary teacher
3	Feb 25, 2010 10:04 PM	special ed. teacher
4	Feb 26, 2010 5:10 PM	State Employee DDD
5	Feb 28, 2010 12:11 AM	I used to be a casemanager for individuals with DD
6	Feb 28, 2010 6:44 PM	I work on behalf of all children and families in Arizona through Head Start and early childhood
7	Mar 12, 2010 10:32 PM	Work for an agency that provides services to individuals disabilities including DD.
8	Mar 12, 2010 11:35 PM	Special Education teacher
9	Mar 18, 2010 10:18 PM	Family member with DD
10	Mar 22, 2010 3:40 PM	Special education teacher
11	Mar 22, 2010 9:51 PM	CASA and director of special education
12	Mar 29, 2010 7:32 AM	I don't believe this questionnaire alone should suffice as providing "public involvement". You need to do more to involve the public!!
13	Mar 31, 2010 7:52 AM	I have an older brother who has a dev. disability
14	Apr 1, 2010 6:16 AM	please correct stephan Tully comment on the website that does not use people first language-How can he be chair and talk about developmentally disabled. ugh! not my idea of a leadership for the council.
15	Apr 3, 2010 2:07 PM	I'm and active parent to parent support provider in my community.

## **Acronyms Glossary**

**ACDL** – Arizona Center for Disability Law

**AHCCCS** – Arizona Health Care

**APRAIS** – The Alliance to Prevent Restraint, Aversive Interventions and Seclusion

**CMS** – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

**DD** – Developmental Disability

**DDD** – Division of Developmental Disabilities

**ESS** – Exceptional Student Services

**FAPE** – Free Appropriate Public Education

**ID** – Intellectual Disability

**IDEA** – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

**IEP** – Individualized Education Programs

**IFSP** – Individual Family Service Plan

**ILC** – Independent Living Center